

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 083716  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL,JR.:GCB  
APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.  
NEA/ARN:MDRAPER  
NEA/ARP:JTWINAM  
S/S: RPERITO  
NEA:NAVELIOTES

-----140357Z 063304 /61

O 140219Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 083716

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, LE, IS, SY, PLO

SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION

REF: STATE 80336

1. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS RE SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON PERMIT  
SOME OPTIMISM THAT CEASEFIRE FOR WHICH WE SOUGHT SAUDI  
SUPPORT AND COOPERATION MAY BE COMING INTO EXISTENCE. SITUA-  
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TION APPEARS TO BE STABILIZING, WITH INTERNATIONAL PRESS  
GIVING CREDIT TO ASAD FOR HAVING ORDERED ARAFAT TO HOLD BACK  
ON PALESTINIAN ATTACKS. NEVERTHELESS, WE ATTACH CONSIDERABLE  
IMPORTANCE TO A DIALOGUE WITH SAUDIS ON THE ISSUE.

2. WE CONTINUE REGARD POINTS REFTEL AS VALID ANALYSIS OF  
SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON AND AS APPROPRIATE PRESCRIPTION

FOR CONTAINING POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS EFFECTS OF CRISIS THERE.  
IF YOU HAVE NOT YET HAD OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS  
BASED ON REFTEL OR IN CONTINUING CONTACTS WITH SAUDIS, YOU  
SHOULD ROUND OUT YOUR PRESENTATION WITH FOLLOWING OBSERVA-  
TIONS:

-- DEVELOPMENTS OF THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS SUGGEST THAT A  
MILITARY STANDSTILL BETWEEN CONTENDING FORCES WILL BE  
ESTABLISHED. THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED HAVE DEMONSTRATED

RESTRAINT AND AN APPRECIATION OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF POTEN-  
TIAL MILITARY ESCALATION THERE WHICH IS ENCOURAGING.

-- SUCCESS IN IMPOSING AND MAINTAINING A MILITARY TRUCE  
WILL DEPEND, IN THE FIRST PLACE, UPON THE ADHERENCE AND  
COOPERATION OF THE FORCES AND MILITIAS DIRECTLY INVOLVED  
IN THE RECENT FIGHTING. ALTHOUGH THE IMMEDIATE CRISIS  
APPEARS TO BE RECEDING, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR ALL CON-  
CERNED TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO PREVENT CONDITIONS THERE  
FROM GETTING OUT OF CONTROL AND TO AFFORD TO PRESIDENT  
SARKIS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXERT HIS GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY  
IN THAT UNSTABLE AREA.  
VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMISTICE, CIVIL DISORDERS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE083716  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WNHOWELL,JR.:GCB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 80336  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2804867  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, LE, IS, SY, PLO  
**To:** JIDDA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c33223a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009